

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/827,519

Examiner

Thomas K. Pham

Applicant(s)

NASMAN ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 5/17/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4,7-11,14-18 and 20-25.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Reasons for Allowance

1. Claims 1, 4, 7-11, 14, 16-18 and 20-25 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

While Keane (U.S. Patent No. 5,195,045) discloses a matching system that communicates instructions and configuration commands from a user interface to a UART. The system comprises a matching network having two variable impedance devices, a tune detector for detecting the condition of the impedance match between RF-signal and the load, and a controller for modifying the values of the variable impedance components in response to the measured tune condition. Keane does not teach a portable device including a coprocessor and a mass storage device selected from the group of CD-ROMs, FlashCards, Optical Disks, and magnetic media, coupled between a POD interface and a second communication interface for communicating sensor information there between, the second communication interface communicating sensor information that complies with a second protocol, the portable device translating the sensor information between the first protocol and the second protocol and being detachable from the POD interface and the second communication interface; and other limitations related to these features in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention.

And Rostoker (U.S. Patent No. 6,131,125) discloses a smart plug-and-play protocol translation cable for use between a personal computer and peripheral such as printers, video, and various network interfaces. The translation cable includes translation circuitry coupled to at least some of the plurality of wires of the electric cable at points between the first plurality of pins of a first connector and a second plurality of pins of a second connector. Rostoker does not teach that

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the translation cable can be used to translate sensor information; and other limitations related to these features in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention.

The prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in conjunction with all the other claimed limitations, a communication interface system for communicating information in a plasma processing system having all the claimed features of applicant's instant invention, specifically including: an interface portable device including a coprocessor and a mass storage device selected from the group of CD-ROMs, FlashCards, Optical Disks, and magnetic media, coupled between a POD interface and a second communication interface for communicating sensor information there between, the second communication interface communicating sensor information that complies with a second protocol, the portable device translating the sensor information between the first protocol and the second protocol and being detachable from the POD interface and the second communication interface, etc., as set forth in the claims. It is for these reasons that applicant's invention defines over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner *Thomas Pham*; whose telephone number is (571) 272-3689, Monday to Thursday from 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM EST or contact Supervisor *Mr. Anthony Knight* at (571) 272-3687.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thomas Pham

Patent Examiner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thompson' or similar, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

June 23, 2006